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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/651,843

08/29/2003

Richard L. Wilder

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8136

79646

7590

08/28/2009

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EXAMINER

PANDYA, SUNIT

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3714

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/28/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/651,843	Applicant(s) WILDER ET AL.	
	Examiner SUNIT PANDYA	Art Unit 3714	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 May 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This action is in response to amendments field on 5/31/09, wherein the examiner acknowledges that claims 1, 7, and 15 are currently amended, and claim 4 has been canceled; consequently, claims 1-3, 5-20 are currently pending.

Claim Objections

Claim 5 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 5 is depending from claim 4, which has been canceled. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 5-7, 9-13, 15 & 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hagiwara (US Patent 4,805,907).

Claims 1, 7, 9, 15 & 19: Hagiwara discloses a system configured to offer a wagering event to a player comprising, multiple gaming terminals, wherein each terminal contains a display to display wagering event information to the players (figure 1, wherein multiple wagering terminals with display for displaying wagering information are disclosed). Hagiwara also discloses a player interface to receive inputs from

Art Unit: 3714

players (figure 1 & col. 3: 1-4), and a monetary interface to accept wager from players (figure 1, element 8 monetary input slot). Hagiwara also discloses a switch configured to communicate with each game component housed within the housing of each terminal (figure 2, wherein all input modules are in communication with the game system), a memory to store machine readable game codes (col. 2: 12-16), and an audio interface having multiple channels configured to communicate with multiple gaming terminals (figure 1, element 10 and col. 2: 27-30). Hagiwara further discloses a central processor remote from the gaming terminals to access the memory to execute the machine readable game code to concurrently offer a game to the players at different terminals (col. 2: 10-18, col. 3: 6-31), wherein the game terminals relying on the central processor (disclosed by Hagiwara in figure 1, element 1) and are lacking processors within each of the terminals (col. 3: 18-31).

Claims 5 & 6: Hagiwara discloses the processor, which is part of the control module, communicates with the gaming terminals via a network (figure 1, wherein the game system which includes a main terminal 1 and dummy terminals 2a, 2b & 2c are all connected through a network, element 4 and col. 1: 64-67).

Claim 10: Hagiwara discloses a master game device comprising a processor, a memory, video adapter and audio adapter (figure 1 & col. 2: 1-16).

Claim 11: Hagiwara discloses one of the game terminals comprising a video adapter (figure 1, elements 7 & col. 2: 1-6).

Art Unit: 3714

Claims 12 & 13: Hagiwara discloses memory and processor being remote from the game terminals, wherein the processor communicates with multiple gaming terminals through a network (figure 1, element 5 and col. 1: 64-66).

Claims 17 & 20: Hagiwara discloses a single controller controlling multiple wagering events (col. 3: 6-31).

Claim 18: Hagiwara discloses a control module comprising a personal computer (figure 1) and each gaming terminal comprises a display and a player interface (figure 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2, 3, 8 & 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hagiwara in view of Itkis (US Patent 4,856,787).

Claims 2 & 3: Hagiwara discloses a system configured to offer a wagering event comprising, a display and a player interface. However, Hagiwara fails to disclose a touch screen display, that is configured as the player interface. In an analogous art, Itkis teaches a concurrent game network comprising, a touch screen display, used for player input, on the slave game device (col. 1: 54-60). It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Hagiwara to

Art Unit: 3714

include a touch screen display configured as the player interface because touch screens are less prone to wear and tear that is common to buttons.

Claims 8 & 16: The combination of Hagiwara and Itkis teach of a network interface card for network communications (Itkis, col. 3: 66-11).

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hagiwara in view of Stepan et al. (US Patent 4,621,814).

Claim 14: Hagiwara discloses the invention substantially as claimed. However, Hagiwara fails to disclose having multiple gaming terminals within the same housing. Stepan teaches an amusement device housing that allows multiple gaming devices to be placed in the same housing (see figure 1 and abstract). It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified the gaming device disclosed by Hagiwara, to allow multiple gaming devices to be placed in the same housing thus reducing space being occupied by multiple gaming machines in a gaming facility.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3, 5-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

In the rejection above, the Examiner has cited particular figures, columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art

Art Unit: 3714

and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUNIT PANDYA whose telephone number is (571)272-2823. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 8 - 5:30.

Art Unit: 3714

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dmitry Suhol can be reached on 571-272-4430. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/JAMES S. MCCLELLAN/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3714

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